The
REPORTER
For Conscience' Sake

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Robert B. Myers, Attorney, Serving NSB Cases

Mr. Robert B. Myers, practicing attorney in nearby Rockville, Maryland, has been temporarily retained as consultative counsel to the National Service Board, and will be available to assist with emergency cases at any time. He will also spend regularly a number of days each month in the NSBRO Washington office at 1105 K Street, N. W. Mr. Myers has a Church of the Brethren background and is a graduate of Cornell University law school where he studied administrative law and taxation under Professor Harrop A. Freeman, well-known attorney of the Society of Friends, who has served in many CO cases across the years. Mr. Myers has had several years of practical experience and comes to NSB highly recommended by Professor Freeman, by the dean of Cornell Law School, and by his clients. We urge *Reporter* readers and others to make full use of the services of Mr. Myers. Correspondence should be addressed to the National Service Board office.

New Dates Set For Selective Service College Tests

Additional opportunities for college students to take the Selective Service examination will be given on Thursday, December 13, 1951, and Thursday, April 24, 1952. Applications for the first test must be postmarked not later than midnight November 5, 1951 and those for the April 24 test must be postmarked not later than midnight, March 10, 1952. To be eligible for the examination a student must intend to request deferment as a student, be satisfactorily pursuing a full-time college course, and must not previously have taken a Selective Service Qualification Test.

World Council of Churches Central Committee Adopts Provisional Statement on Conscientious Objection

Zigler, Dahlberg, Others Influential in Passage

The Central Committee of the World Council of Churches, during its meeting August 4 to 11, 1951, in Rolle, Switzerland, adopted a very significant provisional statement on conscientious objection to be submitted to its member churches and to national commissions of the churches on international affairs. Dr. M. R. Zigler, former chairman of the National Service Board and presently Church of the Brethren representative on the World Council of Churches was instrumental, along with others, in stimulating the Central Committee to take this action. Dr. Edwin Dahlberg, prominent pacifist and Baptist pastor from St. Louis, played a large part as chairman of the subcommittee in bringing about final passage. The document is a most far-reaching development and should be supported by church leaders everywhere. Following is the minute from the Central Committee describing the action:

Dr. Dahlberg, Chairman of the Sub-Committee appointed by the Toronto meeting of the Central Committee, presented the recommendations of the Sub-Committee. After discussion, the main points of which are recorded below, it was AGREED to adopt the following statement and resolutions:

The Central Committee of the World Council of Churches, having adopted the following resolution at its meeting in Toronto, Canada, 9-15 July 1950:

"AGREED: Whereas the Central Committee considers that the conscientious decisions of Christians with regard to participation or non-participation in war are to be respected and that therefore all nations should make provisions concerning conscientious objectors.

"RESOLVES: to appoint a committee to prepare a draft statement concerning the desirable principles on which such legislation should be based for submission to the Central Committee at its next meeting,"

receives with appreciation the report submitted to it by the Committee on Conscientious Objection and recommend:

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UMT REPORT SOON TO GO TO CONGRESS FOR ACTION

The report of the National Society Training Commission on UMT will go to Congress within the next few weeks. It must be sent to Congress by October 29, as required by law. It probably will not be considered until Congress reconvenes in January. The CO provision is practically identical to the CO provision in the present UMTS law. There is considerable chance, according to many, that it will still be defeated. Many military men, but not all, argue that UMT cannot be put into effect while Selective Service is in operation.

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WORLD COUNCIL ADOPTS CO STATEMENT

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I. That the following provisions designed to safeguard the right of conscientious objection be transmitted by the General Secretary of the WCC to Member Churches and by the CCIA to National Commissions of the Churches on International Affairs, as a provisional statement of principles which should be considered in this connection:

1. Conscientious objection shall be recognized as objection to performing military training or service, and to performing combatant duties or activities in support of war, with the understanding that every conscientious objector has the duty to render equivalent service toward the safeguarding of the community.

2. In countries where legislation provides for the recognition of conscientious objection, conscientious objectors should make use of such provisions, including registration and other arrangements for an orderly witness to conscience.

3. In every country a conscientious objector shall be entitled to appeal to an impartially constituted civilian tribunal established to deal with cases of conscientious objection.

4. The proceedings of all civilian tribunals for conscientious objectors shall be open to the public.

5. In no country shall the death penalty be imposed, in peace or war, upon any civilian for conscientious objection. The conscientious objector as such shall suffer no derogation of human rights.

6. A conscientious objector shall be entitled to exemption from the normal requirements of the laws of military training and service, it being understood that provision shall be made for exemption in one of the following ways:

a) exemption without conditions;

b) exemption conditional upon the acceptance of work of a civilian nature under civilian control, such work to be specified by a civilian tribunal;

c) exemption conditional upon the performance of non-combatant duties only.

7. Every conscientious objector granted exemption shall receive a certificate of status and exemption for purposes of identication.

8. An applicant for registration as a conscientious objector who is aggrieved by any order of a civilian tribunal for conscientious objectors shall be entitled to appeal to a higher civilian tribunal.

9. A conscientious objector shall be entitled at any time to request a civilian tribunal to change the classification of his exemption.

10. With due recognition of the sacrifices demanded of all citizens in time of crisis, the conditions of alternative non-military service to which a conscientious objector is directed shall not be different from current conditions of similar non-military employment.

11. A conscientious objector performing alternative service of a non-military character shall be entitled to appeal to the tribunal if required to perform work which he deems to be of a *military* nature.

12. A conscientious objector shall be in the same position as a person in military service in respect to reinstatement in his previous occupation after this period of service.

13. The "non-combatant" conscientious objector shall be entitled to receive an official assurance that he will not be called upon at any time to bear arms.

NOTE: In every case these rights should be taken to apply equally to women as to men.

II. That member Churches and National Commissions be invited to study the above provisions and to report their proposals for modification and amendment.

III. That, when the reports of member churches and National Commissions show sufficient agreement on specific provision to ensure the right of conscientious objection, the CCIA be requested to seek their incorporation in international agreements.

IV. That meanwhile the CCIA in its inter-governmental contacts be requested to continue its support of such general provisions to ensure the right of conscientious objection as are known to be widely endorsed within its constituency.

In discussion Archbishop Athenagoras, speaking generally about the issues raised, stated that conscientious objection when genuine and pure is a whole principle in obedience to the sixth commandment. It may lead eventually to the elimination of war. Nevertheless we must consider many factors before we pass such resolutions as are proposed. Many countries are in a terrible condition, living in fear of attack.

Their peoples love peace but are convinced that when an attack comes they will resort to war to prevent national and individual destruction. These countries cannot spare defenders who may feel that they are COs and may prefer slavery. Moreover, unscrupulous interests may use COs as a knife to stab other nations in the back. It is not fair to put such small countries in the dilemma of disrespecting our principles as against providing for their security. The best principles may not be the best when applied at the wrong time and place.

Bishop Berggrav stated that the basic principles is that conscience must be respected, and that while we might be aware of dangerous consequence we cannot allow them to make any difference. On the other hand COs must not be favoured; each case must be investigated to ascertain religious sincerity.

Dr. Koechlin and Dr. Mays, agreeing with the basic principle, indicated that the document does make a distinction between the Christian CO and the non-Christian, and raised the question as to how far we should go in reference to those who object for other than Christian reasons. Dr. Koechlin indicated that he could not vote for the resolution for this reason.

Father Florovsky, agreeing with

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New Regulations Change IV-E to I-O; CO Service Regulations Incomplete

New Selective Service regulations, issued through Executive Order Number 10292 and signed by the President on September 25, 1951, change the IV-E classification to I-O. The IV-E classification, used since the 1940 Draft Act was put into operation, is in the general category of deferred classifications and would be a misnomer for the classification of men about to be ordered for service. The lowest classification rule, stating that registrants shall be placed in the lowest classification for which they are eligible still holds, but for a slightly different order and with some new designations as follows:

I-A	(Available for military service. Not considered eligible for any lower class.)
I-A-O	(Conscientious objector available for noncombatant military service only.)
I-O	(Conscientious objector available for civilian work contributing to the maintenance of the national health, safety, or interest.)
I-S	(Student deferred by statute. In high school and below 20 or in college, eligible for I-A, but deferred till end of term.)
II-A	(Deferred because of civilian occupation, except agriculture and activity as student.)
II-C	(Deferred because of agricultural occupation.)
II-S	(Deferred because of activity in study.)
I-D	(Member of reserve conponent or student taking military training.)
III-A	(Registrant with a child or children, even if conceived but not born; extreme hardship and deprivation to dependents. Man with wife as only dependent not deferred.)
IV-A	(Registrant who completed service; sole surviving son.)
IV-B	(Officials deferred by law.)
IV-C	(Aliens in country less than year, or otherwise relieved of military duty.)
IV-D	(Minister of religion or divinity student.)
IV-F	(Physically, mentally, or morally unfit.)
V-A	(Registrant over the age of liability for military service.)
I-W	(Conscientious objector performing civilian work contributing to the maintenance of the national health, safety, or interest. I-W-Rel. indicates civilian service has been completed.)
I-C	(Member of Armed Forces and certain registrants separated from them.)

Classification and appeal procedures are essentially the same as heretofore. It is very important that conscientious objectors should file data with the local board for every situation which entitles them to deferment, and ask to be placed in the lowest one for which eligible. Complete data on CO status is very important. (Send for NSB's "How to Fill in Form 150," five cents.) There are several classification and appeal changes which make little practical difference to the registrant. To hasten action on appeals, the physical examination will not be given to all men whose cases are appealed before the file is forwarded to the appeal board, as was the case formerly. This change was made to help students appealing their cases to get quicker decisions, so they could lay their plans. This change would mean that conscientious objectors could in some cases have their cases processed by the Department of Justice and then still be found physically unfit.

Registrants should be certain to ask for a personal appearance within ten days following the mailing of the Notice of Classification, as the 10-day period for granting personal appearances may not be extended, as was the case formerly. Registrants may still talk informally to local boards after the ten days have elapsed, however. This change was made, according to Selective Service, because some "enforcement officials were inclined toward the position that the local board must reopen a case after any personal appearance."

There are two types of student deferment, I-S and II-S. I-S is for a high school student under 20 years, and for college students, eligible for IA, but allowed to complete the term in which they are currently enrolled. II-S is given to students whose study is considered essential.

Men with only wives as dependents will not be deferred. Men with one child or more may be deferred. As soon as a doctor's certificate can be secured stating a child is conceived, it can be counted as a dependent.

Men under 26 who were deferred on or after June 19, 1951, (date the President signed the law) shall be liable to military service until 35 years of age. It is not clear if conscientious objectors who were deferred on or after June 19, 1951, with a classification on the list lower than I-O will be liable to prescribed work until 35 or not. We are seeking an interpretation on this now. It seems, however, that men are liable only to military service beyond the age of 26, and not to civilian service beyond this age.

The basis for agricultural deferment is spelled out in greater detail, indicating it may not be easy to get a II-C. Certain groups of aliens who were formerly deferred will not be liable to service. In cases of aliens from countries having treaties with the United States exempting them from military service, these treaties will be recognized. Certain U. S. citizens living abroad were formerly not required to register but the new regulations require that they register and be inducted even though living out of the country. Seventeen-year-olds may volunteer with the consent of their parents.

Doctors and allied specialists may be classified I-A-O, I-O, I-W, and I-W-Rel., on the same basis as other regis-

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NEW REGULATIONS STILL ON WAY TO PRESIDENT

About a score of governmental agencies are considering the tentative regulations for service of conscientious objectors under the UMTS law of June, 1951. As soon as agreement is reached they will be given to the President for his consideration. When he approves they will be issued as an Executive Order and become effective immediately. It may be weeks before the regulations are issued and perhaps more weeks before the program gets under way. We will send *Reporter* readers the final regulations as soon as they are issued.

Allegheny County Committee For COs Announces Its Organization

Recently the Allegheny County Committee for Conscientious Objectors, serving Pittsburgh, Pa., and vicinity announced its organization as a "nonsectarian service group in this area as long as the need exists due to Selective Service or Universal Military Training or Service." This committee has as its twofold purpose the (1) giving of factual information about the Selective Service and UMTS law (literally these are the same law with different names) and (2) giving aid within the law to conscientious objectors facing prosecution. Members of the Allegheny Committee are as follows: Robert W. Gilmore, 4525 Mt. Troy Road Extension, Pittsburgh 9; Dr. Robert A. Clark, 4312 Centre Avenue, Pittsburgh 13; J. Kenneth Richmond, 2069 Lindsay Road, Pittsburgh 35; Rev. Floyd Gotjen, 422 S. Aiken Avenue, Pittsburgh 6; Rev. Wayne R. Woods, Universal Road, Pittsburgh 35; and Rev. L. B. Moseley, 229 Gladstone Road, Pittsburgh 13.

NEW REGULATIONS CHANGE IV TO I-O

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trants. The lowest classification rule will be followed for special registrants (doctors an allied specialists) according to the following order I-A-O, I-O, I-D, II-A, III-A, IV-A, IV-D, IV-F, V-A, I-W, I-C. This list deletes I-S, II-C, II-S, IV-B, and IV-C for obvious reasons. The fact that IV-D is included probably means a doctor serving as a missionary will be given IV-D. Special registration includes the fields of pharmacy, chiropractic, and chiropody, in addition to medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, osteopathy, and optometry, which were formerly included.

The draft is indefinite, but with authority to induct men into the Armed Forces until July 1, 1955, regarding men not given deferment. Those given deferment are liable till 35, even after July 1, 1955. Men cannot be drafted for UMT until further action by Congress. In fact, UMT may still be defeated by Congress.

The regulations defining service for COs are still being considered by governmental agencies and may not be released yet for weeks or months. The Reporter will keep you informed. It will probably be late 1951 or early 1952 before the CO program is put into operation.

WORLD COUNCIL ADOPTS CO STATEMENT

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the basic principle, indicated that the document makes it too easy for COs and disregards the tragedy of our time in that it overlooks the demands of the community over the individual. It is wrong to try to get the community to protect the individual CO. Speaking as one who would be a CO, he felt that COs should take the consequences of their position.

Dr. Zigler, speaking as a member of one of the historic peace churches, the Church of the Brethren, stated that this is the first meeting, to his knowledge, of the Christian Churches where COs could feel at home. It would be helpful if there could some day be a discussion long enough so that COs and others could understand each other and thus bridge the gap between them which so frequently makes the Christian CO lonely within the Christian fellowship.

Bishop Navarro stated that we must respect conscience but must recognize that conscience may necessarily change according to circumstances. We must not open the door for the pseudo-conscientious objector; COs should be respected but protection for them may bring up a large number who are simply cowards. More time should be given to the study of this matter.

Pastor Niemoller stated that by putting these resolutions to the governments we would be doing them a service. It is bad for the health of the state to deal with persons acting out of conscience as it would deal with ordinary criminals. The purpose of these resolutions is to give COs a legal status before the state. This is to render a service to the state.

Dr. Dahlberg commented that the distinction in the document is not between Christian and non-Christian conscientious objection but between sincere and insincere objection, and that the provision that COs appear before a tribunal is an attempt to secure guarantees as to sincerity.

Mr. Irwin commented that, in addition to investigation by tribunals, COs are better tested by the difficulty and danger of alternative service.

In response to a question by the General Secretary it was agreed to record the above resolutions were passed by a considerable majority of the Committee, but that a not inconsiderable minority voted against and that others abstained from voting. It

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was agreed that those who voted in the negative might have their names recorded as such.

Professor Ioannides asked that his vote against the resolution be recorded.

Donald Lewis Wright Considered for Probation

Following is a quotation from "The Open Forum," official organ of the Southern California branch of the American Civil Liberties Union:

"A good judge can change his mind. Federal Judge James M. Carter has furnished proof of that.

"During the trial of Donald Lewis Wright, son of a Brethren minister, Judge Carter announced that in his court no conscientious objector could qualify for probation unless he expressed a willingness to comply with the Selective Service Act. (Thus violating his conscience!) Young Wright was accordingly given three years in the Federal penitentiary — a heavier sentence than is imposed on draft dodgers, not to mention the regular run of criminals. He was transported to Tucson Prison where he has resided since June 15th.

"Like an ancient Roman Judge, confronted by a man of conscience, Judge Carter seems to have been plagued by the manifest sincerity of the young man who put his convictions of the will of God for him above the threats of prison. On motion of Don's attorney, J. B. Tietz, Judge Carter changed the sentence to a probationary sentence involving work under the direction of the American Friends Service Committee.

"But Judge Carter did not reckon with the Department of Justice, which forthwith ordered the local District Attorney to object to granting of probation after the serving of the original sentence had begun.

"On September 4th Attorney Tietz appeared before Judge Carter and moved that defendant be allowed to withdraw his plea of nolo contendre and the judgement of conviction be set aside.

"Judge Carter 'ordered that the judgment of Conviction be and the same is set aside; that the motion be allowed to withdraw the plea of nolo contendre is granted, and the plea is now withdrawn; and that the defendant be released upon his own recognizance; and that he appear before this court on Monday, October 8, 1951 at 4 o'clock p.m. for plea and other proceedings'." (As this went to the press before October 8, the outcome of proceedings then cannot be printed.)

New Immigration Law Would Bar Naturalization Of All Conscientious Objectors

A bill introduced into the Senate on August 27, 1951, by Senator McCarran of Nevada would bar the naturalization of all conscientious objectors including those opposed to both combatant and noncombatant military service. Known as the "Immigration and Nationality Act" it would completely destroy the gains made in the Girouard and Cohnstaedt Supreme Court cases. In the Girouard case it was ruled that conscientious objectors opposed to giving combatant service, but willing to give noncombatant service in the armed forces, could be naturalized. In the Cohnstaedt case it was ruled that aliens opposed to noncombatant service could be naturalized. The new bill would also do away with the procedure defined in the Internal Security Act of 1950.

Former Procedure

Under the Internal Security Act of 1950, the provision states that if an alien requesting naturalization is a conscientious objector he is required to show.

"by clear and convincing evidence . . . to the satisfaction of the naturalization court that he is opposed to the bearing of arms or the performance of noncombatant service in the Armed Forces of the United States by reason of religious training and belief." (Section 29 of the Act).

If he can prove his sincerity, he is required to take the following oath:

"I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and adjure all allegience and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegience to the same; and that I take this obligation freely and without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion: So help me God. In acknowledgment whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature."

All persons who are not conscientious objectors, or COs who cannot prove their sincerity, are presently required to take the following oath which requires them to bear arms or perform noncombatant service in the Armed Forces:

"I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and adjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States or perform noncombatant service in the Armed Forces of the United States when required by law; and that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion: So help me God. In knowledgment whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature."

Section 337 of the proposed law, S. 2055, makes no reference to the general plan of a naturalization court's examination of the CO's sincerity or to a special oath for conscientious objectors. It simply describes an oath, impossible to a CO, requiring a CO to "bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law, and to perform noncombatant service in the armed forces of the United States when required by the law, and to perform work of national importance under civilian direction when required by the law." Following is the complete language in the bill describing the elements of the naturalization oath:

"(a) A person who has petitioned for naturalization shall, in order to be and before being admitted to citizenship, take in open court an oath (1) to support the Constitution of the United States; (2) to renounce and adjure absolutely and entirely all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of whom or which the petitioner was before a subject or citizen; (3) to support and defend the Constitution and the laws of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; (4) to bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and (5) to bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law, and to perform noncombatant service in the armed forces of the United States when required by the law, and to perform work of national importance under civilian direction when required by the law."

WHO IS GIVING I-A-O SERVICE?

It is quite impossible to determine the total number of men drafted with I-A-O who are now in noncombatant service, but recently NSB received a report that 340 I-A-O men are now in medical training at Fort George Meade near Washington. This is 11% of the medical unit in training there which totals about 3,000 men. At the present time I-A-O inductees in the medical service (not all I-A-O men are in the medics) are located at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and at Fort Meade, Maryland. Shortly, according to a new regulation, all will be transferred to Fort Meade. The breakdow of these men by denominations is given below. Incidentally, even men in the medical corps are trained in the mechanics of weapons, and are "allowed" to shoot a gun several times during training. It is explained that they may have to protect their patients during combat.

Breakdown by Denominations

Seventh-Day Adventists	119
Church of God	24
Apostolic Christian	18
Pentecostal	17
Protestant (no preference)	16
Baptists	15
Methodists	14
Church of Christ	13
Christian	8
Friends	8
Jehovah's Witnesses	8
Mennonites	8
Brethren	6
Roman Catholic	6
Assembly of God	5
Church of God of the Abrahamic Faith	5
Holiness	5
Plymouth Brethren	4
Followers of Christ	3
Missionary	3
Assembly of Christ	3
Apostolic Faith	3
Lutheran	2
Evangelical	2
Church of God in Christ	2
Presbyterian	2
International Bible Students	2
No religion stated	2
Mormon	1
Church of God and Saints of Christ	1
Nazarene	1
Brethren in Christ	1
Christian Science	1
Lancaster Gospel Center	1
Church of the Blessed Hope	1
Detroit Bible	1

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Current Status of COs in Europe Described By Mennonite Scholar

Mennonite scholar Guy F. Hershberger, professor at Goshen College, recently released a thirty-eight page report on his fourteen-months term of service in Europe for the Mennonite Central Committee. One phase of his 7-fold objective in Europe was to "study the legal status of conscientious objectors in Europe." Following are the quotations from his concise report which give the status of COs by countries.

Australia

"Before the war there was no legal provision for COs in Austria, and no doubt most of those who refused military service when called up in World War II were liquidated. Today there is no Austrian army or conscription and the constitution says nothing about COs. . . . there is no way of knowing how many COs there are in the country. Ninety percent of the Austrian people are Catholic, and the organized peace movement generally does not have a large number of Catholics in it."

Belgium

"Belgium is a country with compulsory military service, and no legal provision for conscientious objectors. Neither is there any important body of public opinion favoring such provision. The number of actual COs is very small, however, and in several cases in recent years COs have not been called up, the Belgium authorities evidently adopting this method of keeping the issue quiet. Another method used has been to excuse the CO from military duty, providing he accepts work as a coal miner and continues until age 28. Shortage of labor in the mines, and the unpopularity of the work, seems to be responsible for this approach, and a number of COs have accepted the alternative. With these exceptions the only alternative is prison, although COs who accept military service are frequently assigned to the Sanitary Service (Medical Corps). In Belgium the term of military service is one year, beginning at age 20."

England

"As compared with other countries, England has a very high percentage of conscientious objectors, and also very liberal laws regarding them. During World War I the total number of COs was 16,000. During the World War II period, from 1939 to 1945, out of about 8,300,000 registered men, 67,000 were provisionally registered as conscientious objectors. Under the British system the provisional CO registrant appears before a Tribunal which reviews his case and determines his final classification under one of four possible categories. Up to December, 1948, the British Tribunals had classified 62,301 of the provisional registrants as follows: 1. Registered as COs unconditionally, 2,937 (4.7%). 2. Registered as COs on condition that they undertake civil work or training, 23,638 (37.9%). 3. Registered for noncombatant military service, 17,231 (27.7%). 4. Removed from the register of conscientious objectors, 18,495 (29.7%). This means that more than 26,000 men were adjudged sincere COs and excused from all military service. This was more than twice the number so excused in the United States. Furthermore, 2,937 of those men were given unconditional CO standing, a position not granted in the United States at all.

"Even though there was no registration dealing with this point, the Ministry of Home Security applied a similar liberal policy in not requiring conscientious objectors engaged in civilian defense work to perform duties too closely allied to the military side of the war effort, such as handling ammunitions. Conscientious objectors assigned to civilian work were permitted to do foreign relief work with such organizations as UNRRA, the Friends Ambulance Unit, and others. In the new Service program which went into effect in 1949 the provisions for conscientious objectors are substantially the same as during World War II.

"This policy is in line with the liberal British tradition to which Winston Churchill, wartime prime minister, gave effective expression on March 20, 1941, as follows: "The rights which have been granted in this war and the last to conscientious objectors are well-known, and are a definite part of British policy. Anything in the nature of prosecutions, victimizations, or manhunting is odious to the British people."

"A British peace organization of great importance is the Central Board for Conscientious Objectors organized in 1939 as a service board for the assistance of the COs with their legal and technical problems. It represents seventeen supporting constituent bodies, including all the leading pacifist organizations and fellowships. In addition to this five other groups, including the Parliamentary Group on Conscientious Objectors, send observers to the regular meeting of the C.B.C.O."

France

"France requires 12 months of military service of all able bodied young men at age 20. There is no legal provision for COs. According to the law, persons refusing to perform the required service must be sentenced to prison. In the past, however, there have been few French COs. Conscientious objection generally finds its strongest support in a Protestant and Free church environment, and France has less than 1,000,000 Protestants in a population of 42,000,000. Some also ascribe the sparsity of COs to the leveling influence of the French democracy. Earlier wealthy people escaped service by paying money. Now democracy requires that everyone serve without exception. During the 1930's there were a dozen or so French COs, some of them definitely Christian, as Henri Roser and Philippe Vernier, all of whom served prison sentences.

In the fall of 1949 there were about five well-known cases of COs before the public eye. In November, 1949, there were seven COs in prison. Marc Nez, the Quaker attorney who serves as Counsel for COs, says, however, that there had recently been about 20 cases of COs given physical discharges by the military authorities who frequently use this method to keep the cases from becoming a public issue. There was much publicity in 1949 concerning the case of Jean Bernard Moreau one of the five COs mentioned above. He was a religious CO whose obvious sincerity earned for him a considerable body of favorable public opinion. The coming

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WHO IS GIVING I-A-O SERVICE?

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Student Ecclesia	1
Moslem	1
Assemblies	1
Church of the First Born	1
Name of Jesus	1
Disciples of Christ	1
Full Gospel	1
Christian Convention	1
Body of Christ	1

COs IN EUROPE

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of Garry Davis to Moreau's support produced some additional publicity for a time, although how much help this was to the cause is a question. In 1950 a few new cases continued to come up including that of Marcel Fredouelle in April, 1950. The pacifist forces in France took advantage of this public interest to press for a modification of the French military laws so as to give legal recognition for COs. Henri Roser, the Protestant pastor, assisted by Andre Trocme and others, is the spiritual leader of this movement; Marc Nez is the legal adviser; and Andre Philippe is the member of Parliament who takes the lead in the attempt to introduce the necessary legislation. So far, however, these efforts have not produced the desired results. One obstacle to success in this effort has been the changeable character of the French government."

Germany

"During the time of the Hitler regime in Germany there was little open expression of Pacifism. It may have been theoretically possible for a person with a conscience against bearing arms to obtain an assignment in the Medical Corps, even under Hitler, but if so it meant very little. At any rate it is certain that most genuine COs called up for service either renounced their conscientious scruples or they were liquidated. There is evidence that there were many such COs placed in concentration camps and later executed. No doubt this is what happened with most of them. There are a few who are living today, however. One of these few I met personally.

"Following the fall of the Hitler regime, Germany was completely demilitarized. With no army, and no required military service, the faith of conscientious objectors in Germany during the past six years has not met with any severe testing. The peace forces have been at work, however. Anticipating the time when German rearmament might become a reality, organizations like the F.O.R. and the W.R.I. took steps to insure legal recognition for conscientious objectors by constitutional provision. As early as November, 1947, the Bavarian provincial government adopted a constitutional provision which says that no citizen can be compelled against his will to perform military service, and that no penalty shall ensue the refusal to perform such service. In April, 1948, the Province of Wurttemberg-Baden took similar action, as did also the Province of Hesse. These provinces lie within the American Zone of Germany and in all of them these constitutional provisions were adopted with the approval of the American military authorities. The provisions protesting conscientious objection do not stand alone, of course. They are part of a series of constitutional provisions guaranteeing such fundamental human rights as freedom of speech and freedom of religion. The Bavarian constitution, for example, says that Bavaria declares itself for peace and freedom. It also declares that war is outlawed. The latter declaration was in harmony with the declared purpose of the Allies at the close of the war to prevent the remilitarization of Germany. Thus an American military officer who presumably would be opposed to conscientious objection in America might be very much in favor of it in a demilitarized Germany.

"It is interesting to note, however, that the Provinces in the British Zone were not permitted to include CO provisions in their constitutions. The British military government ruled that this was a matter of foreign policy and that foreign policy must be determined by the federal government, not by the provinces. The French military authorities permitted the provinces in the French Zone to include provisions for freedom of conscience, but no provisions specifically for conscientious objectors to war. The federal government soon took action, however, and on May 8, 1949, wrote a provision into the federal constitution guaranteeing complete freedom of religion and freedom of conscience, and declaring that no one could be compelled contrary to his conscience to perform military service. This was only a general constitutional provision, however, and it was stated that it should be followed with detailed legislation for the implementation of the principle. In the summer of 1950, as the remilitarization of Germany became an issue once more, members of the German parliament with a concern for the conscientious objector were taking steps to introduce the legislation necessary for this implementation. A leader in this movement was Dr. Fritz Wenzel, a socialist member of the German parliament who is also a Lutheran minister and a thoroughgoing pacifist."

Norway

"In Norway military service is compulsory for all physically fit males. Conscientious objectors may perform alternative civilian state service, the period of service being 50 per cent longer than the normal term of military service. Work is assigned with the length of time specified, however. Thus, if a ten-day job is finished in eight days, the eight days are credited as ten. By diligent effort, therefore, it is possible to reduce the term of service considerably. Under the Norwegian law relief service on the continent counts as alternative civilian service."

Sweden

"Sweden also provides alternative civilian service for COs. Applicants must address a letter to the King stating their religious convictions. Then they are called before a tribunal for questioning. The term of service is one-third longer than the normal term of military service. Alternatives to military service recognized by Swedish law are: (1) Nursing in military hospitals, or cottage hospitals; (2) Clerical and professional work on military staffs, units, etc.; (3) Service in the civil defense, as service in the fire brigade; (4) Their performance of other civilian duties. Points 3 and 4 evidently include forestry work, road construction, and similar services. A letter from the secretary of the Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society says that during recent years "the number of conscientious objectors has remained constant: about 180 out of some 45,000 conscripts." Only a few have been sentenced to prison and these, practically without exception, have been Jehovah's Witnesses."

NOTE: The report on COs in Holland, Italy, Denmark, Finland and Switzerland will appear in future issues.

Number of Hearing Officers Increased to 150

Until recently there were 120 Hearing Officers throughout the country to hear cases of conscientious objectors which were referred to State Appeal Boards. The work load of these men has become quite heavy and recently the Justice Department has begun efforts to increase the number of Hearing Officers to 150. The Justice Department also reports difficulty in keeping the Hearing Officers with many resignations tendered. Many of them resign after short periods of service. The Justice Department has promised cooperation in supplying the name of any Hearing Officer in which a given registrant is interested. The Justice Department also has given its cooperation in transferring a hearing from one area to another when it worked a hardship upon a registrant to travel some distance to the location of the Hearing Officer to whom his case was referred.

United Nations General Assembly May Consider Human Rights Covenant With CO Reference

The United Nations General Assembly, convening in Paris on November 6, 1951, will have forwarded to it for consideration the draft Covenant on Human Rights containing a reference to conscientious objectors. The draft Covenant was developed during the last several years by the U. N. Commission on Human Rights under the chairmanship of Mrs. Roosevelt. It was considered by the Economic and Social Council which convened in Geneva, July 30, 1951.

The reference to conscientious objection states that civilian service in lieu of military service shall not be considered "forced or compulsory labour." The reference occurs in Article 5 which states that no one shall be held in slavery; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited; no one shall be held in servitude; and no one shall be required to perform forced or compulsory labour. Then, however, Article 5 continues by listing the exceptions which shall not be considered forced or compulsory labor. Item (c) (ii) of these exceptions is as follows:

"ii Any service of a military character or, in the case of conscientious objectors, in countries where they are recognized, service exacted in virtue of laws requiring compulsory national service."

Other exceptions not to be considered forced or compulsory labour are hard labour as punishment of a crime, service exacted in cases of emergency or calamity threatening the life of well-being in a community, and work or service which forms part of normal civil obligations.

WASHINGTON COMMITTEE FOR CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS ANNOUNCES STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Washington Committee for Conscientious Objectors, 3959 Fifteenth Avenue, Northwest, Seattle 5, Washington has recently announced its statement of purpose. The officers of the Committee are Kenneth A. MacDonald, Chairman; Rev. Clement Bontrager, Vice-Chairman; Rolla Houghton, Treasurer; Ray Bloomberg, Secretary. Following is the statement of purpose:

To defend the rights of conscience, the Committee will, for all who seek its aid:

Provide a group of experienced counselors to assist Conscientious Objectors to analyze and clarify their thinking on war, with special regard to the moral and religious bases of the objector position.

Supply information concerning draft procedures and alternative work.

Arrange for legal counsel and bail for arrested objectors awaiting trial.

Within the limit of law, work for the release of Conscientious Objectors inducted into the armed forces or detained therein against their conscience.

Work to release any imprisoned objector and to secure such prisoners as many human rights as possible while confined.

It is not the purpose of the Committee to initiate or promote opposition to military service.

The full Committee is composed of the following workers: Rev. Victor C. Bendsen, Harry Burks, Harold Carson, Prof. F. B. Farquharson, John S. Harlow, Mrs. Ethelyn Hartwich, Gordon K. Hirabayashi, Prof. Julius A. Jahn, Mrs. Chester Kingsbury, Mary Ellen Krug, Chaplain E. J. Lipman, Sylvia H. MacColl, Rev. Stanley MacNair, Bernard L. Pearce, Rabbi Samuel Penner, Ray C. Roberts, Rex Roudebush, Floyd Schmoe, Stanley T. Shaw, Fred W. Shorter, and Frank L. Wright, Jr.

Catholic Group Publishes Form For Registering COs

Contrary to the belief of many, there are Catholic conscientious objectors. Recently The Catholic Worker, 223 Chyrstie Street, New York 2, N. Y., published a form for the registering of conscientious objectors of the Catholic faith. Following is a facsimile of the form used by Catholics:

Registration of Catholics As Conscientious Objectors

After deep consideration and prayer, I hereby register as a conscientious objector. I do so because as a Catholic, I believe that in a restoration of all things to Christ, moral principles must permeate the whole of society, even in its international relations.

Date_____

Name _____

Address _____

Return to
The Catholic Worker
223 Chrystie Street, New York 2, N. Y.

(use extra sheets of paper to make complete answer)

In filling this out it would be good to answer the questions:

What is the religious basis of your objection to war?

When did you become a conscientious objector?

What are you doing, now for peace?

We advise any of our readers who are conscientious objectors to fill out this form and send it to the Worker. Selective Service often asks us for information on Catholic COs, and we would like to have a file so that we can honestly support their claim. In stating the reasons for objections it is advised to use the official phrases "by reason of religious training and belief" and "belief in a Supreme Being" if they apply.

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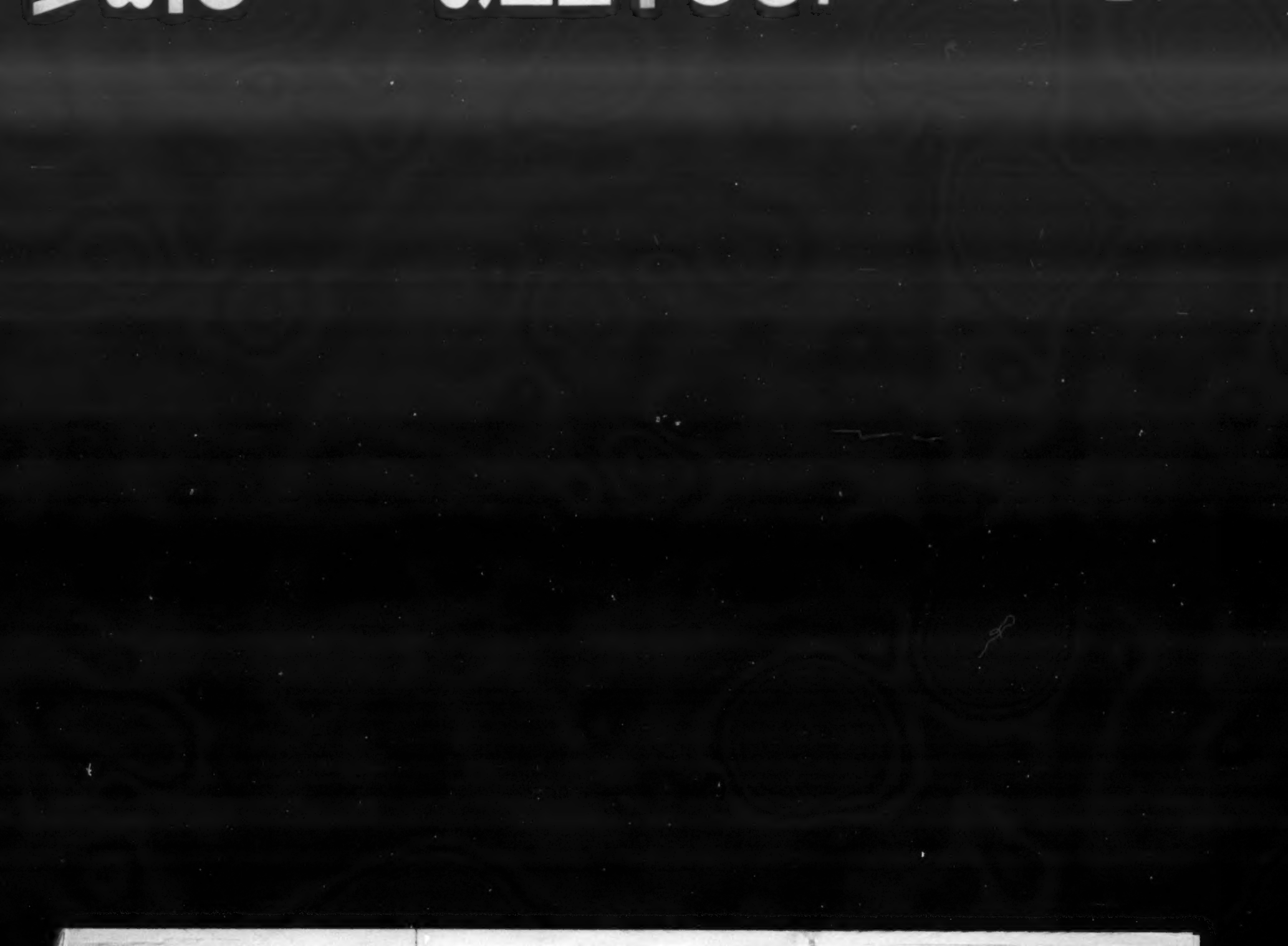
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